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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/659,624 ✓	09/10/2003	Akio Gouo	3408.68351	5580

7590

07/22/2005

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EXAMINER

KIM, PAUL D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3729

DATE MAILED: 07/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/659,624

Applicant(s)

GOUO, AKIO

Examiner

Paul D. Kim

Art Unit

3729

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 June 2005.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11-17 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-16 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/748,918.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/10/03.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is a response to the restriction requirement filed on 6/3/2005.

Response to the Restriction Requirement

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I, claims 11-16, in the reply filed on 6/3/2005 is acknowledged.
2. Claim 17 is withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 6/3/2005.

Specification

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).
4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: --A TESTING METHOD FOR A HEAD IC--.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 13 and 14 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim.

Applicant is required to cancel the claims, or amend the claims to place the claims in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claims in independent form.

The phrase "said measurement terminal" as recited in line 2 of claim 13 and line 3 of claim 14 does not recited in claim 11.

6. Claims 11-16 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The phrase "a head IC" recited in line 2 of claim 11 appears to be --the head IC--.

The phrase "the base" as recited in lines 3-4 of claim 14 appears to be --a base--.

The phrase "said measurement terminal" as recited in line 4 of claim 15 appears to be --a measurement terminal--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shiraishi et al. (US PAT. 6,202,288).

Shiraishi et al. teach a process of testing a magnetic head suspension assembly system comprising steps of: installing a head IC (17) for processing an electric signal from a head (18) for at least reading a disk medium, on a head suspension (19) that

supports the head as shown in Fig. 3; and placing a probe (not shown, col. 5, lines 57-62) on a terminal (13) of the head suspension to check electric characteristics of the head IC (see also col. 4, line 43 to col. 6, line 42).

As per claim 12 Shiraishi et al. also teach that a first connection terminal (14) for electrically connecting to the head, a second connection terminal (13) for connecting to external circuits, third and fourth connection terminals (15) for electrically connecting to the head IC, a first conductive path (12, located at a middle portion) that connects the first and third connection terminals, a second conductive path (12, located at a right portion) that connects the second and fourth connection terminals and a measurement terminal (13) that is located between the second connection terminal and the fourth connection terminal of the second conductive path, and which is placed the probe as shown in Fig. 2.

As per claim 13 Shiraishi et al. also teach that the measurement terminal and the first connection terminal are located on the same plane of the suspension as shown in Fig. 3.

As per claim 14 Shiraishi et al. also teach that the first, second, third and fourth connection terminals, the first and second conductive paths, and the measurement terminal are formed using a thin-film pattern on a base of the suspension as shown in Fig. 3 (col. 6, lines 28-30).

As per claim 15 Shiraishi et al. also teach a base for the head suspension and a flexible cable on which the first, second, third and fourth connection terminal, said the

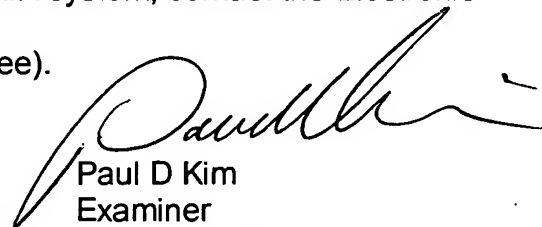
and second conductive paths and the measurement terminal are formed as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

As per claim 16 Shiraishi et al. also teach that the head comprises a magnetic head.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul D. Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-4565. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Paul D Kim
Examiner
Art Unit 3729